

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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51

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 PM-07

NSC-07 SS-20 EB-11 SSC-01 CIEP-03 H-03 DRC-01 /117 W

----- 008647

R 031411Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8739

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 6803

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EG

SUBJECT: CABINET RESHUFFLE EXPECTED

1. CAIRO PRESS SEPTEMBER 1 REPORTED PRESIDENT SADAT MET PREVIOUS DAY WITH FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HEGAZI TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF NEW CABINET TO BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE END OF SEPTEMBER, FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF "TRANSITIONAL ECONOMIC PLAN". ALI AMIN QUOTES THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING HEGAZI WILL ASSUME POST OF PRIME MINISTER PRESENTLY HELD BY SADAT. FM FAHMY TOLD AMBASSADOR HE EXPECTS HEGAZI WILL, IN FACT, BE APPOINTED. OTHER SENIOR GOE OFFICIALS EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 2 SPOKE OF HEGAZI'S APPOINTMENT AS IF IT WERE AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT.

2. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS FLATLY THAT HEGAZI WILL CANCEL SCHEDULED TRIPS TO RIYADH AND WASHINGTON DUE TO PRESSING REQUIREMENTS TO FORM NEW CABINET. DEPT IS AWARE WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN FROM HEGAZI'S OFFICE CONFIRMATION OF DEFINITE APPOINTMENT
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SCHEDULE IN WASHINGTON. FURTHER,

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
HERE TELLS US THEY CAN GET NO FIRM WORD
FROM HEZI AS TO WHETHER
HE WILL MEET PM WHITLAM DURING HIS
TRIP TO US AS HAD BEEN PROVISIONALLY PLANNED.

3. THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY, THEREFORE, THAT HEGAZI WILL
BE NEW PM. IF SO, SADAT APPARENTLY REMAINS CONFIDENT THAT
HEGAZI IS THE BEST MAN TO BRING SEMBLANCE OF ORDER OUT OF
PRESENT ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE MUDDLE. ELEVATION TO
HIGHER OFFICE WILL NOT, IN OUR VIEW, MEAN HEGAZI WILL TAKE ON
NEW OR SUPERVISORY FOREIGN AFFAIRS RESPONSIBILITIES. THESE WILL
REMAIN FIRMLY IN HANDS OF FM FAHMY AND THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINT, EG, US, (HEGAZI, AL-AZIZ)
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